Submission to Kelkar Committee

1447. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee met professional bodies and consumer associations before finalising its supplementary report, if so, when did such meetings take place;

(b) whether these bodies submitted any representations in writing to the Committee; and

(c) if so, whether they were taken into account before finalisation of the report of the Committee and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) The details of meetings held by the Kelkar Committee are not readily available. The Committee had taken into consideration various representations received by it.

Omission of drugs required for National Health Programmes

1448. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry or Kelkar Committee or Government received representations in regard to omissions of drugs required for National Health Programmes;

(b) whether his Ministry has taken any decision on these representations; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) After taking into consideration, the various representations received by the Kelkar Committee as well as these referred to it by the Government, the Committee had *inter alia* recommended the omission of the drug Oral Rehyderation Salt (DRS) from the list of Schedule-I drugs. Accordingly this drug has been omitted from Schedule-I of the DPCO, 1987 as per Drugs (Prices Control) Amendment Order, 1989 notified on 18-1-1989.

Categorisation of Rifampicin

1449. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee has recommended the shifting of Refampicin to Category-II for a period of three years;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Notification issued for shifting does not refer to this period;

(c) whether it is a fact that all the formulators of Rifampicin are going to set up basic production; and

(d) if not, the reasons for extending the benefit to all?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) While recommending for shifting of Rifampicin from the First Schedule to the Second Schedule of DPCO 1987 the Kelkar Committee in its Supplementary Report has suggested that in the event of the failure of the Indian manufacturers to achieve the target of indigenous production of Rifampicin from basic stage (inclusive of fermentation) Rifampicin could be brought back to the First Schedule. Pursuant to the above recommendation Government has shifted Rifampicin from the First Schedule to the Second Schedule. The position will be reviewed periodically.

Price control on Piroxicam

1450. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the turn over of Piroxicam was less than rupees fifty lakh during 1986 and it had a negative growth for several companies;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there are more than five producers of bulk drug and more than ten formulators;

(c) whether it is also a fact that process to manufacture this drug has been developed indigenously; and

(d) whether this drug will be price decontrolled?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) Sales turn over of formulations is not monitored.

(c) and (d) Applications received from various companies seeking exemption of different bulk drugs from price control on this ground are under consideration.

Price control on Paracetamol

1451. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 140 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th April, 1989 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Paracetamol fulfils all the exclusion criteria;

(b) whether it is also a fact that none of the formulators account for turnover of more than 23 per cent;

(c) whether his Ministry has examined the comparison of concentration of Paracetamol to Glybenclomide;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what steps have been taken by his Ministry to rectify these discrepencies?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (e) After considering various representations, the Kelkar Committee, in its Supplementary Report, has recommended shifting of Paracetamol from Schedule I of DPCO, 1987 to Schedule II and exemption of Glybenclamide from price control under DPCO 1987. These recommendations of the Kelkar Committee have been accepted by the Government.

Price of Aspirin.

1452. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) when were the recommendations regarding fair price of Aspirin received from SICP;

(b) when was the price fixed by his Ministry;

(c) whether his Ministry fixed any ad hoc price;

(d) if so, on whose recommendations; and

(e) what are the reasons for not referring the matter of fixation of ad hoc price to BICP?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (e) The price of Aspirin bulk drug was revised to Rs. 80/- per kg. on "ad hoc" basis with effect from 2.6.1988 consequent on the representations received from the manufacturers of this drug. However, the Cost Price study of this drug was simultaneously taken up by the BICP and on the basis of BICP Report received in November 1988 a price of Rs. 71/- per kg. has been fixed with effect from 20.1.1989 on their recommendations.

Price control on Vitamin B6

1453. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Vitamin B6 is being produced from inermediate stage by certain producers;

(b) what are the names of producers of Vitamin B6 and what is the stage of production of each;